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207188US2 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

TAKUJI NOMURA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 09/830,849 :

FILED: MAY 2, 2001 :

FOR: OPTICAL HEAD DEVICE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 11-28 as follows:

11. (New) An optical head device comprising:

a light source;

an objective lens for converging outgoing light from the light source on an optical recording medium;

a phase correcting element provided between the light source and the objective lens to change a wave front of the outgoing light, the phase correcting element including an anisotropic optical medium sandwiched between a pair of substrates, at least one of the